OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Intry-Mintry.

Willie and Bess, Georgie and May-

Once, as these children were hard at play,

An old man, hoary and tottering, And watched them playing their

pretty game. He seemed to wonder, while standing there,

What the meaning thereof could

Aha! but the old man yearned to

Of the little children's innocent glee,

As they circled around with laugh and shout.

And told this rhyme at counting "Intry-mintry, cutrey-corn,

Apple seed and apple thorn; Wire, brier, limber, lock, Twelve geese in a flock; Some flew east, some few west, Some flew over the cuckoo's nest!"

Willie and Bess, Georgie and May-Ah, the mirth of that summer day! 'Twas Father Time who had come to

The innocent joy of those children

He learned betimes the game they played

And into their sport went he. How could the children have been afraid,

Since little they recked whom he might be. They laughed to hear old Father

Time Mumbling that curious nonsense

> Of "Intry-mintry cutrey-corn, Apple seed and apple thorn; Wire, brier, limber, lock, Twelve geese in a flock; Some flew east, some flew west, Some flew over the cuckoo's nest!"

Willie and Bess, Georgie and May, And joy of summer—where are they? The grim old man still standeth near Crooning the song of a far-off year; And into the winter I come alone,

Cheered by that mournful requiem, Soothed by the dolorous monotone

That shall count me off as it counted them-The solemn voice of old Father

Time Chanting the homely nursery rhymne

He learned of the children a summer morn When, with "apple seed and ap-

ple thorn,"

Life was full of the dulcet cheer That bringeth the grace of heaven anear-

The sound of the little ones hard at play, Willie and Bess, Georgie and

May. -Eugene Field.

"Number One."

"He is a Number One boy," said grandmother, proudly. "A great boy for his books. Indeed, he would rather read than play, and that is saying a good deal for a boy of ten."

"It is, certainly," returned Uncle John; "but what a pity it is that he is blind!"

"Blind!" exclaimed grandmother. And the Number One boy looked up, too, in wonder.

"Yes, blind, and a little deaf, also, I fear," answered Uncle John.

"Why, John, what put that into

your head?" asked grandmother, looking perplexed.

"Why, the Number One boy himself," said Uncle John. "He has been occupying the one easy-chair in the room all the forenoon, never seeing you, nor his mother when she came in for a few minutes' rest. Then, when your glasses were mislaid, and you had to climb upstairs to look for them, he neither saw nor heard anything that was going on."

"Oh, he is so busy reading," apologized grandmother.

"That is not a very good excuse, mother," replied Uncle John, smiling. "If Number One is not blind nor deaf, he must be very selfish, indeed, to occupy the best seat in the room, and let older people run up and down stairs while he takes his ease."

"Nobody asked me to give up my seat nor to run on errands," said Number One.

"That should not have been necessary," urged Uncle John. "What are a boy's eyes and ears for, if not to keep him posted on what is going on around him? I am glad to see you fond of books; but, if a pretty story makes you forget all things except amusing Number One, better run out and play with other boys, and let grandmother enjoy the comfort of her rocker in quiet."-Church Progress.

Beecher's Advice to His Son.

From a letter once written to his son by the famous preacher, we take the following wise hints, which are good for all young men-and young women, too:

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"Make but few promises. Religiously observe the smallest promise. A man who means to keep his promises can't afford to make many.

"Be scrupulously careful in all statements. Aim at accuracy and perfect frankness, no guess workeither nothing or exact truth.

"When working for others, sink yourself out of sight; seek their interest. Make yourself necessary to those who employ you by industry, fidelity, and scrupulous integrity. Selfishness is fatal.

"Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anybody else expects of you. Demand more of yourself than anybody expects of you. Keep your own standard high. Never excuse yourself to yourself. Never pity yourself. Be a hard mas-

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ter to yourself, but lenient to everybody else.

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"Do not speculate or gamble. Steady, patient industry is both the surest and the safest way. Greediness and haste are two devils that destroy thousands every year."

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